

Menasha Health Department  
Annual Report  
2011

The mission of the Menasha Health Department is to promote public health, protect consumers, and encourage a healthy living environment in response to the needs of the community and Menasha Joint School District. This report is a summary of programs and services provided in 2011.

Public Health

The Menasha Health Department has a Level 3 Designation by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health. A Level 3 Designation means the health department must meet certain requirements in staffing and provide a certain number of programs targeting Healthy Wisconsin 20/20 objectives. There are eight staff in the department, all of whom have an integral role in promoting the health and well being of Menasha residents and children in the school district. These dedicated individuals do what they can to try and make life better for others. Programs and services provided in 2011 include the following:

Communicable Disease Control

A key role of public health is to control the spread of infection and illness by following up on all reportable communicable diseases; promoting and providing immunizations; monitoring disease outbreaks; and providing education on how to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

**Communicable diseases reported in 2011**

Blastomycosis (1)  
Campylobacter (16)  
Chickenpox (2)  
Chlamydia Trachomatis - Sexually Transmitted (70)  
E. Coli 0157: H7 (1)  
Ehrlichiosis (2)  
Giardiasis (1)  
Gonorrhea - Sexually Transmitted (8)  
Hemophilus Influenza – Invasive Disease (1)  
Hepatitis C (10)  
Influenza Associated Hospitalization (1)  
Lyme Disease (2)  
Mycobacterial Disease – Nontuberculous (4)  
Parapertussis (1)  
Pertussis – Confirmed (10) Probable (5)  
Salmonellosis (4)  
Streptococcal Disease – Invasive Group B (1)  
Streptococcus Pneumoniae – Invasive (1)

Immunization Clinics were held monthly. Vaccines were administered to both adults and children. 1528 immunizations were given to 1084 individuals. Of this number 935 were flu shots (452 children doses and 483 adult doses).

The health department partnered with two Menasha businesses' wellness programs and provided flu vaccine and tetanus boosters on site.

A collaborative effort with the N-M Valley VNA and 60+ Health Screening Program provided 70 flu shots for senior citizens at the Menasha Senior Center.

An increase in pertussis cases was noted in 2011. Besides the disease intervention, staff provided continued education on disease prevention transmission to school age families and the public.

Health department staff monitored school absenteeism on a weekly basis assessing for increases in respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses. Evaluation of increased illness in the school setting is one measure of knowing what is happening in the community as a whole.

The City of Menasha has a rabies control program. This program is a cooperative effort between the health department and the Menasha Police Department. In 2011, 34 animal bite cases were followed by staff.

Head lice checks are done by the department's public health aide as part of the school districts no nit policy. Head lice are not considered a communicable disease but rather are a health nuisance. In 2011, 268 office visits were for the purpose of head lice checks.

#### Health Promotion and Prevention

Another function of public health is the promotion of healthy behaviors and practices. This includes providing health screenings; health education; participating in community partnerships; and completing a community needs assessment. In 2011, the health department offered blood pressure screenings at the Menasha Senior Center; wellness screenings; colorectal and skin cancer screenings. Health department staff contributed health promotion information to the city newsletter distributed twice yearly to every household. In addition, staff participated in the annual library BRAIN WALK, and provided health promotion education to the Menasha Day Care Providers Group. Staff participated in the following community partnerships: Head Start Community Advisory Council; Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Force; Immunization Coalition; Lead Prevention Task Force; Wisconsin Well Women's Program Advisory Group; and Walk to Win.

A community needs assessment is required every 5 years. The Appleton, Neenah and Menasha health departments worked together to complete a Fox Cities health assessment for the United Way Fox Cities Life Study. The telephone survey was completed in November/December of 2010. Results were made available in 2011 with key findings of obesity and lack of physical exercise; diabetes prevalence; lack of access for mental health issues; and a decline in perception of overall health status.

### Case Management

Public health nurses work with individuals, birth through elderly, providing health assessments and consultations in-home, via telephone, and in the office. Referrals are often made to appropriate local and state resources. In 2011, a total of 3413 visits were completed. Another 200 packets of health information for parents of newborns were mailed in 2011.

### Emergency Preparedness

The health department receives grant funding for emergency preparedness, and to have the capability to respond to a public health emergency either from a natural disaster, an act of terrorism, or a widespread communicable disease outbreak (pandemic flu). In 2011, the health department conducted a drill of its mass clinic plan by holding a seasonal flu clinic for all families in the school district. Health department staff and other key partners reviewed the mass clinic plan for UW-Fox Valley. The health department continues to recruit and maintain a volunteer registry. Annual training on different emergency protocols was offered to all active volunteers. In 2011, some of the volunteers participated in the mass flu clinic drill; and 30 participated in CPR/First Aid training. CPR/First Aid training was also provided to 11 Youth Academy participants.

### School Health

The Menasha Joint School District contracts with the Menasha Health Department for school nursing services. The nurses provide individual health assessments including health counseling for students and staff; monitor the health and coordination of health services for students with special health needs; and provide classroom instruction on various health topics and issues. Vision, hearing, dental and scoliosis screenings are also provided. There are five school health aides (supervised by the nurses) 3 are assigned to elementary buildings, 1 is assigned to the middle school and 1 is assigned the high school. The health aides provide service over the lunch period dispensing medications, monitoring diabetic students, providing first aid, and caring for ill children. In addition, health department staff provides CPR/First Aid certification for school employees. Each school has an identified emergency response team with emergency training drills completed three times during the school year.

A registered dental hygienist screens children in grades pre-k through 4 for dental neglect, referring those for treatment where needed. Dental education in the elementary grades pre-k through 4 is done annually. The fluoride varnish program was expanded in 2011 to include Kindergarten students. A dental sealant program was re-established for grade 6, using Seal-A-Smile grant funding.

A summary of the 2011 school health services is provided below:

Individual contacts for health assessments, health monitoring, health procedures, health teaching, IEPs .....9271

CPR/First Aid classes participants.....178  
(recertify every 2 yrs.)

Health and Dental Education participants ..3336

Vision Screening 1776 with 121 referred

Hearing Screening 1033 with 13 referred

Scoliosis Screening 197 with 12 referred

Dental Screening 1630 with 184 referred  
Fluoride Varnish Program Participants ..... 561  
Dental Sealant Program Participants .....126

### Senior Center

Winnebago County Aging and Outreach Services contracts with the City of Menasha to provide services for adults 60 years and older at the Senior Center. Health Services are provided as part of that contractual arrangement and include health screenings and health education. Blood pressure screenings are offered monthly in conjunction with a health consultation by a public health nurse. Other screenings done on an annual basis include skin cancer (provided by a local dermatologist), colorectal, wellness, and anemia. Flu shots are administered in a collaborative effort with Valley VNA. In addition a Healthy Steps to Healthy Aging program was initiated in 2011. An early morning walking program during the months of January through April has continued at MHS field house for those unable to walk outdoors.

### Environmental Health

The environmental health program is responsible for food safety at licensed establishments; asbestos compliance inspections through a contract with the DNR; inspection of manufactured home parks; lead risk assessments; nuisance animal complaints (includes follow-up on animal bites/rabies); human health hazard follow-up; and indoor air quality follow-up (mold, elevated radon). The weights and measures program for the city is also a component of environmental health. The registered sanitarian who administers the environmental health program was funded through an FDA grant in 2011 to enroll in the FDA National Voluntary Program Standards. In addition, the sanitarian was re-standardized in the Wisconsin Food Code.

### **Activities in 2011 include:**

Restaurant Inspections for 45 Establishments - 134

Retail Food Establishment Inspections for 28 Establishments – 66

Mobile Restaurant Inspections for 4 Establishments – 4

Temporary non-profit restaurants permitted – 37

School food service inspections for 10 locations – 18

Tattoo and Body Piercing inspections for 1 establishment – 1

(plus an additional investigation of an illegal  
in-home tattoo operation. Operation ceased)

Swimming Pools/water attraction inspections for 6 permittees – 9

Mobile Home Park Inspection for 1 establishment – 1

Wts. And Measures inspections of 352 devices located in 31 businesses.

DNR Asbestos Contract Inspections – 10

**Human Health Hazard Complaints:**

Lead hazards	13
Indoor Air Quality/Mold	26
Outdoor Air Quality	2
Radon Kit Distribution	47
Housing	27
Animal Issues/Animal Waste	22
Sewage	11
Solid Waste (garbage)	23
Insect infestation/bed bugs	21
Asbestos (non DNR contract)	12

Coordinated visits with Human Services for health hazard investigations in homes - 6

Clandestine Drug Lab (meth lab) inspection/remediation – 1 lab

5 site visits

Water Quality - 1 location

5 site visits

Chemical - 4

**City Safety Program**

The health department provides oversight of 3 safety committees. Staff provide CPR/First Aid/AED training for 48 employees as well as other required annual trainings. In 2011, staff have been updating safety policies as needed.

**Clinical Site for Student Nurses**

The health department was a clinical site in 2011 for 16 UW-Oshkosh undergrad nursing students; 2 BSN completion students; and 1 BSN completion student from UW-Green Bay. The students are mentored by staff and are required to complete an academic project that promotes health in school children and city residents.

**Other Accomplishments**

The public health director was part of a work group of public health professionals, parish nurses, and an academic professor who researched and developed a tool kit for faith based communities on infection control and emergency preparedness. This toolkit has been widely distributed both in-state and nationally. The success of this resource spurred a request to publish an article for the Journal of Christian Nursing. In the October-December 2011 issue an article authored by the workgroup was published. An abstract was also submitted to the Journal of Public Health and unfortunately was not accepted.

**Budget**

Revenues of \$445,831 in 2011 for all programs were a combination of grants, contracts, and fees.

Expenditures in 2011 totaled \$703,100.